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# UA3/3/2 President Kelly Thompson Speech File

WKU Archives

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**Western Kentucky University  
UA3 President's Office  
Series 3 Kelly Thompson  
Subseries 2 Speech File**



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**Biographical/Historical Note:** The president's office was created in 1906. Assistant to the President Edwin Kelly Thompson became acting president during Paul Garrett's last illness. Upon Garrett's death February 28, 1955 the Board of Regents approved Thompson to continue as acting president until a replacement could be found. He was elected president on October 17, 1955 a position he held until his retirement in 1969.

Kelly Thompson was born in Lebanon, Kentucky on January 28, 1909. He came to Western in the fall of 1928 on a football scholarship and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. Thompson spent his early career at WKU as college representative and publicity director. During World War II he served in the Navy, after which he returned to campus to work as an assistant to E.A. Diddle and President Paul Garrett. [Harrison, pp. 139-143]

During his tenure as president, Thompson oversaw a steady increase in student population which resulted in the construction of new buildings and WKU gained university status in 1966. He stepped down in 1969 and later went on to serve as president of the College Heights Foundation. Thompson died August 14, 1993.

**Description:** Speeches written and delivered by Kelly Thompson at various events.

**Dates:** 1955-1969

**Subject Analytics:**

Audio recording  
Dedications  
Eastern Kentucky University (Richmond, KY)  
Education  
Founders' Day commemorations  
Graduation ceremonies  
Helm, Harold Holmes, 1900-1985

Kiwanis Club  
Motion pictures  
Speeches, address, etc.  
Thompson, E. Kelly, 1909-1993  
Western Kentucky University  
Workshops

**Accession Information:** These records were transferred to the University Archives upon its creation.

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Preferred Citation:** UA3/3/2 Kelly Thompson Speech File, WKU Archives, Kentucky Library & Museum, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

**Processing Information:** Finding aid created by Suellyn Lathrop, 2010, revised 2013.

# Finding Aid Report

05/01/2013

<b>UA3.3.2</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Level</b>	<b>Subseries</b>	<b>Linked toUA3.3</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>UA3 President's Office Series 3. Kelly Thompson Subseries 2. Speech File</b>	
<b>Collection</b>	<b>WKU Archives</b>	
<b>Scope &amp; Content</b>	<b>Speeches written and delivered by Kelly Thompson at various events.</b>	

## Container List

Container	Folder	Creator	Date	Title	
Box 1		President's Office	1957-1975	Speech File	
Description	Box also includes Subject/Correspondence File			Subjects	Workshops Graduation ceremonies
	Am I a Builder, notes				
	Appraisal of Today's Youth, notes				
	Argumentation, Understood and Properly Developed, Is a Vital Part of the Foundation Upon Which				
	Leadership is Built				
	Better Business Bureau of Louisville				
	Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce				
	Bowling Green Industries				
	Burkhead, Gilbert				
	Dedication				
	Eastern Kentucky University				
	Eisenhower Elementary School, West Palm Beach, FL				
	Faithful to Our Trust				
	Flag Day				
	Founders Day				
	Hearing, Believing, Doing and Being				
	Helm, Harold				
	How Now, The North Atlantic Community: A Report on Tabulation of Questionnaires and			Remarks	
	Kiwanis Club				
	Know Thyself				
	Louisville Advertising Club				
	Morris Harvey College				
	My Old Kentucky Home				
	National Association of College and University Administrators				
	North Hardin High School				
	R.E. Stevenson Elementary School				
	Rotary Club				
	Smith, Dewey				
	State Street Methodist Church (Bowling Green, KY)				
	The Most Unforgettable Person I Have Ever Known				
	The Six Cardinal Mistakes of Man in Dealing With Man				
	Third District Education Association				
	Thompson Science Complex (WKU)				
	Today's Image of the Laboratory School				
	Viewed by Kentuckians				

Box 30		WKU President's Office	1967	Speech File - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreels - 3			Subjects Audio recording Speeches, address, etc.
	Founders Day, nd Freshman convocation, 1967 (2)  Cherry, Henry			
Box 36		WKU President's Office	1955-1969	Speech File - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audioreels - 7			Subjects Audio recording Speeches, address, etc. Education
	Banquet in honor of Kelly Thompson, 1955 Chapel Address, 1955 Homecoming / Freshman Convocation, 1967 The Image of the Laboratory School, LSAA, Chicago, 1964 Student Rally, 1969 Tenth Anniversary, 1965 Unidentified, 1973			
Box 41		WKU President's Office		Speech File - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audiotapes - 1			Subjects Audio recording Speeches, address, etc.
	Kelly Thompson, Master, Muhlenberg County, nd			
Box 42		WKU President's Office		Speech File - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	16mm film on 7 inch reel - 1			Subjects Speeches, address, etc. Motion pictures
	Farewell Banquet, nd			
Tape Box 1	Drawer 1	President's Office	1955-1975	Speech File - Film/Video/Audio File
Description	Audiotapes - 4			Subjects Audio recording
	Chapel 10/19/1955 (2) TDEA Banquet 10/2/1975 (2)			